

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P R 301030Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7028

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9331

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJ: POLITICAL PROSPECTS IN AFTERMATH OF PARLIAMENTARY
REJECTION OF IRMAK GOVERNMENT

REF: ANKARA 9319

1. IRMAK GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO WIN INITIAL VOTE OF
CONFIDENCE NOVEMBER 29 (REFTEL) LEAVES TURKEY STILL IN GRIP
OF GOVERNMENT CRISIS (NOW 73 DAYS OLD), WITH POLITICAL
PARTIES FACING ESSENTIALLY SAME SET OF ALTERNATIVE FORMULAS
FOR RESOLVING CRISIS.
ALTERNATIVES THAT COULD BE TRIED IN NEAR FUTURE
WOULD LIKELY INCLUDE:

A. ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY AN INDEPENDENT PRIMIN-DESIGNATE--POSSIBLY
IRMAK--TO FORM GOVERNMENT, BASING EFFORT THIS TIME ON
SUPPORT BY PARTIES THAT HOLD MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT.

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B. COALITION BETWEEN ECEVIT'S REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY (RPP) AND ONE OR MORE OF THE SMALLER PARTIES (UNDER EITHER ECEVIT OR MORE NEUTRAL FIGURE).

C. CENTER-RIGHT COALITION (UNDER DEMIREL OR MORE NEUTRAL FIGURE).

D. ECEVIT-LED MINORITY GOVERNMENT.

E. ANOTHER TECHNOCRAT GOVERNMENT.

2. WHILE SEVERAL OF THESE ALTERNATIVES HAVE ALREADY BEEN REJECTED ONCE AND ALL FACT SERIOUS OBSTACLES, THEY DO APPEAR POSSIBLE. NECESSARY INTER-PARTY COMPROMISES COULD BE MADE EASIER IF PARTIES CONTINUE THEIR PRESENT APPARENT PROGRESS TOWARD SETTling THEIR DISPUTE OVER DATE OF EARLY ELECTIONS, A KEY FACTOR IN PROLONGING THIS CRISIS.

3. PARLIAMENT'S OVERWHELMING REJECTION OF IRMAK'S TECHNOCRAT GOVERNMENT PROBABLY RENDER IT UNLIKELY THAT FRESH TRY ALONG SIMILAR LINES WILL BE MADE IN NEAR FUTURE. RECOUNT GAVE IRMAK SIX MORE VOTES THAN IN ORIGINAL COUNT REPORTED REFTEL, MAKING FINAL TOTAL 358 AGAINST, 17 FOR, AND THREE VOID (69 NOT VOTING AND THREE SEATS EMPH)--STILL A LOPSIDED AND UNEQUIVOCAL REJECTI

N. WHILE EACH PARTY, WE UNDERSTAND, HAD ITS OWN INTERNAL REASONS FOR OPPOSING IRMAK GOVERNMENT, POINT WHICH ALL PARTIES MADE IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS WAS THAT GOVERNMENT WAS NOT BASED ON ELECTED MEMBERS
F IARLIAMENT AND WAS THEREFORE NOT DEMOCRATIC.

4. AS CRISIS GROWS LONGER, PARTIES ARE UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO FIND SOLUTION. OUTSIDE PARTIES, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DISCONTENT OVER GROWING NATIONAL PROBLEMS THAT CANNOT BE TACKLED BY CARETAKER GOVERNMENTS. ARMED FORCES ARE GROWING IMPATIENT AND ARE CONCERNED ABOUT APPROACHING DECEMBER 10 DEADLINE FOR CUTTING OFF U.S. MILITARY AID UNDER TERMS OF CRA. WE HEAR INCREASING PREDICTIONS THAT MILITARY WILL BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON PARTIES BUT VERY LITTLE TALK OF ACTUAL INTERVENTION BY MILITARY.

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5. ASIDE FROM ACCEPTING IRMAK'S RESIGNATION AND ASKING HIM TO CONTINUE AS CARETAKER PRIMIN, PRESIDENT KORUTURK HAS NOT YET MADE PUBLIC COMMENT ON PARLIAMENT'S REJECTION OF IRMAK GOVERNMENT.
MACOMBER

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